

Sadly, I must record that Geoff Swann recently passed away after an extended period of ill health.

Geoff and his wife Barbara were players in both the Dawes County matches and other LCBA events. Records show that they were regular Leicestershire players by the mid-1970s.

Geoff captained the Dawes matches second team in the 1980/1981 season. He took on the role of LCBA Fixtures secretary for five years from 1982 – 1987. When Leicestershire won the Dawes trophy in the 1983/1984 season and the second team were third, the success was recorded to be “in no small way, due to the efforts of our Fixtures secretary”. Geoff was also instrumental in setting up the system whereby the winners of some LCBA events are automatically selected to represent Leicestershire in external competitions.

Catherine Chadwick wrote to the LCBA secretary in 1987 as Geoff finished his term of office he “will be very much missed. He has raised the standard of Honorary Fixtures secretary to an all time high.”

Geoff was a member of the County Bridge Club, the Leicester Bridge Centre and the Spencefield League team. He and Barbara won the Leicestershire Cup in 2002 and again in 2004. They also won the Stanley Trophy on four occasions when it was run as a Swiss Teams event rather than in its current format.

Geoff was one of the first people to write a computer program for use in scoring a duplicate club session. This was originally used at the Leicester Bridge Centre. He later adapted the program for use in other events. He must have been fascinated watching the subsequent development of general scoring programs and now the use of Bridgemates.

Geoff will be remembered for all these contributions and as a well-respected gentleman at the bridge table.